

WOMEN'S BEST WHEN THEY POSER THEMSELVES

Those of American Variety Are Posers, Is Prince's Comment.

EVERLASTINGLY APE THOSE "HIGHER UP"

But the Only Poverty One Need Be Ashamed of Is the Shabby Genteel.

By DOROTHY DIX.

PRINCE, who is also a diplomat, who recently visited this country, when asked the middle question what he thought of the American woman, made this wise reply:

"The only fault I have ever been able to find with any American woman, either when I met her at home or abroad, is that she is bent on posing as a cosmopolitan. She is the most charming woman in the world when she is just herself, but she doesn't seem to know this. She keeps trying to be an English woman or a French woman, or some other kind of a woman—anything, so long as it isn't an American woman—and she goes to all sorts of trouble to do it, when she is much more the thing, don't you know, when she was just herself. It's a beautiful shame, and somebody ought to tell about what a mistake she is making."

That's about the most discerning and discriminating and deserved criticism that has ever been passed upon the American woman, and she would do well to heed it. For it's true, every word of it. The American woman is all right when she is herself, and she's in all wrong when she tries to be somebody else. And there are more pretenses among us than there are in the Spanish throne, which is going some.

Woman Affects To Be Somebody—She Isn't.

It's a queer thing that in this country where our proudest boast is that we are all born free and equal, and that we have no class distinctions, practically every woman is affecting to be somebody she isn't. Abroad a duchess is a duchess, and a housewife is a housewife, and each self-respectingly stays in her own sphere in life. The duchess doesn't dream of posing as a princess, or the servant maid of trying to look as if she were a governess or salesgirl. But in America the woman with a hundred thousand dollars acts as if she were a millionaire, the millionaire affects to be a multi-millionaire of long standing, the multi-millionaire hires somebody to hunt her up a pedigree that proves she descended from William the Conqueror, the servant girl pretends to be a stenographer, the stenographer carries her lunch in a music roll or imitation book so she may be mistaken for a professional woman, and the professional woman starves herself to death so that she may dress like a woman of fashion.

Why do we do it? Heaven only knows, for there is nobody so mean and poor of intellect as to be taken in by such transparent shams, and nobody with had enough taste to admire the hideous pinches, articles we turn out of ourselves. On the contrary, do we not continually hear some one say, "What a charming girl, Mary! What an interesting woman, Mrs. Simpkins would be if she only was herself." Or, "What an interesting woman, Mrs. Simpkins would be if she only was herself."

And how absurd and ridiculous what figures of fun, are those who are forever pretending to be what they are not!

Nothing So Ridiculous As Sham.

There is all of the innumerable company of working women who pretend to be idlers, of old women who affect to be young, of dull women who try to appear learned, of big fat women who try to be kittenish and look like performing elephants, of poor women who wear neckties and rhinestone diamonds and cat fur, of women with combs, opera glasses and what you will, who try to see "Tillie's Nightmare," and drag themselves to see "Parisian."

God help them all, and give them eyes to see the beauty of sincerity, and make them realize that there is nothing else in the whole world so ridiculous as sham and so attractive as reality. The only poverty that one need be ashamed of is the shabby and the shabby, the only ignorance at which one is ever inclined to sneer is the bombastic and pompous pretense of learning. No one criticizes a meal of honest corned beef and cabbage and beer. It is only when one is served mock duck and 50-cent champagne by waiters that are hired for the occasion that one is tempted to deride his hostess.

On the other hand, there are no people so fascinating as those who have the courage to be simply themselves, and who say and do what they feel, and do not affect tastes and opinions that are foreign to them. We call this personality in an individual, but in reality it is only simplicity and sincerity.

Tie Rack of Tan Linen Good Gift For Man

A pretty tie rack of tan linen embroidered with a design of holly makes an attractive Christmas remembrance for a man.

When finished it should measure about fourteen by five inches. The holly is arranged along the sides and across the top and bottom. After the embroidery is finished and pressed the linen is mounted on cardboard and four metal triangles wrapped in red or green ribbon are fastened on the back with narrow ribbon made in the board, and the ends are pasted down on the back. Ribbon hangers to match are also pasted on the back, and over the back plain white paper is used as a finish.

Poems Women Should Know

Editor's Note: Every poem which will appear in this series is one that has brought a throb of hope, a throb of courage, a throb of happiness, or of inspiration to some human heart. In clipping and saving the series you cannot afford to miss one number.

"Our Lady Sat A-Singing."

Our lady sat a-singing,
To the baby on her knee
When three kings came a-bringing
Royal gifts from Arabia,
From Ind and Grecia gifts of gold
And frankincense and myrrh,
To hail as lord of all the world
The son that smiled at her;
And our lady sat a-singing,

Lullaby my little baby;
Slumber softly be at rest
In the kingdom that thou lovest
Thronged upon thy mother's breast
With thy mother's arm around thee
Where thy mother's love hath crowned thee
For the crown of love is best.
Slumber softly!

—Sidney Alcott, in December "Black and White."

CHILDREN'S COATS FOR SCHOOL WEAR



SIMPLE coats and staple suits are the ones that the boys and girls need for school wear. Here is one that is admirably well adapted to the purpose.

The coat is made of striped suiting, with collar and cuffs of silk. It is a very pretty and effective one, yet it is exceedingly easy to make. There is a lining in which the sleeves are inserted, and which is faced at the arm-holes. The coat is made without sleeves and with big arm-holes, and is arranged over it. If the more elaborate effect is wanted, these arm-holes and the fronts can be trimmed with braid.

For a girl of four years of age will be required three yards of material 27 inches wide, 1 1/2 yards 44 or 1 1/2 yards 52 inches wide, with 3/4 yard of silk. The May Mantion pattern, No. 689, is cut in sizes for children of two, four, and six years of age. This pattern can be purchased at Goldenberg's.

Cost of This Coat in Two Materials

Velveteen.	
3 yards of velveteen, 56c yard.....	\$3.25
3 yards, 10c each.....	.67
3/4 yard of silk, 48c yard.....	.29
Total.....	3.11
Broadcloth.	
1 1/2 yards of Broadcloth, \$2 yd.....	\$2.75
3/4 yard silk, 48c yard.....	.29
3 frogs, 25c each.....	.57
Total.....	3.91

Colonial Quilts Shown Down East

In a certain town "Down East" an enterprising concern conceived the brilliant idea of having a colonial quilt contest.

The scheme was an advertising one, of course, but it had its advantage as well, for it brought forth from cedar chests, old trunks, garrets, and attics unusual and long forgotten quilts. Crazy quilts, patchwork quilts, beautiful quilts, historic quilts, autograph quilts, and novelty quilts of many kinds were forthcoming.

One hundred and three quilts were exhibited, and in this collection was one over two hundred years old.

All of which show that the antique dealers and curio collectors haven't secured all our old American and Revolutionary curios as yet.

Blotter Pad For Desk Useful Christmas Gift

A useful gift for a man's desk is a blotter pad, twelve by fifteen inches, with the back of cardboard, covered with heavy tan pongee silk.

This comes in tan ooze leather, embroidered with dots in satin stitch, done with reseda green. The ooze leather is cut so the blotter shows through.

The four corners can be alike or the lower ones finished with embroidered bands of the ooze leather to match the upper corners. The corners slip off so the blotters can be renewed. The blotters should be as near the color of the silk as possible to carry out the effect. A small pen wiper to match, of tan ooze leather, will make the gift complete.

Careful Darning Proves Profitable

If you must darn it pays to do it well. Rough, hobbled work is a disgrace that no neat woman is willing to incur. Study the character of the tear and aim to repair it in the way that will show least.

This differs with different materials. Some women seem to think because they excel in the old-fashioned running darn such as is used on sheer linen or gauze that it is suitable for all materials. Many fabrics look better with a patch or straight seam than with a darn; some can be held together by adhesive substances at the back, which is replaced when it loosens.

They Who Pray Believing

By FRANCES CARROLL

OF ALL the scenes we most wish to see at Christmas time is the vivid, contagious joy that lights the children's countenances with a glorious effulgence at the thought of Santa Claus, the well-stuffed stocking, or brilliant tree that will be their very own for one brief day in the year at least. No mother can forget the thrill she feels when Indian war whoops fill the house at the first sight of Christmas toys, and no man fails to remember his Santa Claus days.

But what of the boys and girls who never know the joy of a real Christmas? In Washington there are countless homes where the struggle for the bare necessities of life is enough to crush out the vital forces of the brave strugglers without the impossible addition of Christmas toys for the little children whom God has sent into such homes.

In the charitable homes of the city where orphans and waifs are reared and educated there is a dearth of mother's cheer and bright gifts when every young heart in the land most craves a personal love and a real home.

What of these children afflicted with blindness or crippled for life?

Even worse are children afflicted with blindness or crippled for life. What of these thousands of little hearts that send eager prayers to the great God for Santa Claus, and who pray believing?

Can you picture the eve before Christmas when bright heads are bowed in faith and baby lips murmur trusting prayers for Christmas—just a little bit of Christmas? Then picture the same bright eyes opening in excited eagerness the next morning and the rushing across an overcrowded room to where a stocking hangs limp and empty!

My friend whose children will never know the bitterness of such an experience, this moment means more to these children of Washington than the loss of all your fortune would mean to you. You might retrieve the fortune, but they can never wipe out the distrust and seething pain which sweeps their young souls as they stand, on Christmas morning, before their empty stockings.

The boy will remember it when he is a man.

The little girl will not have forgotten when she is a woman, and mother herself.

For it is a memory which never dies; an incident which influences the making of the man.

These are the children who pray for the Christmas gift—believing.

Then, there is another class—children who have known nothing since they received the wonderful gift of life except privation; children who have gone their own way and cared for themselves since they learned the art of walking, and who know only the name of Christmas; children whose eyes never brighten and who make no eager answers when asked what they expect from Santa Claus.

One day last year, as Christmas neared, I joined a group of children who find their education and play alike in the streets. After winning their confidence I steered the conversation to Christmas lore.

"What do you think Old Santa will bring you this year?" I questioned the group.

A bright-eyed boy made quick response.

"A lickin' mor'n likely, ma'm," he said.

The other little faces around me were solemn. Two or three nodded their heads in agreement with the answer I had received to my question.

Their continuous denial of every-day necessities had taught these children of the masses to look for no gifts under any provocation, not even at Christmas, the child's great gift day.

If the grown-ups, who are battling to meet life's dire necessities, are denied gifts they can reason within themselves—not so the child to whom Christmas is the day looked forward to the whole year round.

The disappointment of a giftless Christmas will leave its sting in his soul through all the years that he shall live.

Many a child has been lifted from the sordid misery around him to the conception of a higher, better life; many a bright young mind has been fired with ambition through just a Christmas toy.

Perhaps it seems a small thing to you who may go and fill your nurseries with expensive toys for your children, to talk of the joy of a single toy to some other child at Christmas.

Yet it is true that the one toy that goes into the gloom and desolation of a little life that knows no personal gratifications means more than hundreds of dollars' worth of toys to your children who have no wish left unfulfilled.

The benefit is not alone one gained by brightening a young life for a few hours, but carries a lesson—a never-to-be-forgotten lesson, to an impressionable heart, teaching something better, some hope beyond the meager existence and narrow limitations to which it has been accustomed.

Again, then, what of all these children in Washington who are going to have a giftless Christmas unless you go down into their pocket and taste the real blessedness of the season through giving to them?

Little Bedtime Tales By EDITH HAVENS

Christmas Shopping

THE great bustling city was alive with Christmas shoppers, but among all those countless people there were none happier than Esther and Philip Holden, who were doing a little shopping of their own with mother.

They had left home early in the morning. They were not only going to buy articles for Christmas gifts, but were going to see the sights as well. And, indeed, there are many wonderful sights to see in a great bustling city at Christmas time.

They had just come from one of the big dry-goods stores, where mother had bought some silk for a dress for Aunt Alice.

"Now we will go to the toy shop," said Mrs. Holden.

The children danced with delight. Across the street they rode their way carefully, for teams and automobiles were coming from every direction. Sometimes a big policeman would stop the horses to let the people pass, and Philip thought how grand it would be to be a policeman.

"Is it far to the toy store?" asked Esther, a bit impatiently, as they reached the opposite sidewalk.

"Only a few steps, now," answered

Philip was interested in a little train of steam cars which were moving along a little track.

But outside was not to be compared with inside, and there were so many wonderful things to see that the little people wondered if it was all a dream.

Among the countless toys upon the benches Philip spied a pretty, fluffy sheep.

"Oh, look! oh, look, mamma," he cried, and he placed his hand upon the neck of the pretty toy. "Be-a-b-e-squeaked the sheep, as if saying 'How-ye-you-do,' and Philip jumped back with a frightened little cry. And how they all laughed. Even the pretty saleslady laughed.

"You must touch things, dear," said Mrs. Holden, but the saleslady was very kind and she made the sheep squeak again and again for them.

Was anything ever more wonderful? For over an hour they walked through the toy fairland. It would be impossible to begin to tell what they saw.

Little did the children dream that during the day Mrs. Holden had bought the squeaky sheep for Philip and the pretty, blue-eyed doll with golden hair for Esther.

What a merry Christmas it will be when the children awake on Christmas morning and find these wonderful gifts.



Esther and Philip gazed with delight at the toy sheep which would be his.

Tomorrow's Menu; How To Prepare It

BREAKFAST.
Hollid Wheat, Cream and Sugar.
Fried Sausage, Toasted Crumpets.

LUNCHEON.
Fish Croquette, Mixed Pickles.
Bread and Butter.
Cherry Pie, Tea.

DINNER.
Boast Duck With Sweet Potatoes.
Celestial Pudding and Nat Salad.
Mold of Dates, Wafers.
Coffee.

Crumpets—Sift with one quart of flour three teaspoonsful of baking powder and one-half teaspoonful of salt. Beat two eggs very-light, add two tablespoons of melted butter, three cups of milk, one tablespoon of sugar and last the sifted flour. Have the griddle hot, grease it well, place muffin rings, well greased, on the griddle and half fill them with the batter. Turn when under side is pale brown. The turning must be done very carefully. When they are to be used toast quickly, but not too crisply, and butter. The quantity given here will make enough for two meals.

Fish Croquettes—Take enough cold boiled or baked fish to make two cups, freeze from bone and skin. Make a cream sauce from one large cup of milk, two tablespoons each of flour and butter rubbed together until smooth, and then stirred into the hot milk. Season with a saltspoon each of salt and pepper and a tablespoon of minced parsley. When sauce is thick remove from the fire, and set it aside until cold. Stir in the fish, form into croquettes, dip in beaten egg, roll in bread crumbs and fry in deep fat.

Use canned cherries for the pie. Mold of Dates—Clean one pound of dates, put them on the stove to cook for ten minutes in just enough water to keep them from sticking. Pour them into colander, and when cold remove the seeds. Make a syrup by boiling two cups of water with one small cup of sugar, add the dates, boil up once and remove from fire, add one-half box of gelatin dissolved in one cup of warm water, one cup of sherry, or grape juice. Line mold with blanched almonds; pour in jelly slowly when it begins to thicken, and put away in a cold place. Serve with whipped cream.

Daily Horoscope

"The stars incline, but do not compel."
Sunday, December 18, 1910.

The planets augur ill for men of evil will.

ON this 332d day, the Moon, in a fiery sign, has the planets in aspects that have always been held by astrology to portend evil for those who have ignoble desires. It makes a period wherein mankind will benefit in proportion as they set their minds, wishes, and hearts on high things.

Quarrel, gossip, frivolity about serious matters, criticism of others, harsh judgments, unkindness, and coldness of heart are under evil omens. Selfish enjoyments are not likely to produce anything except regret and remorse under this rule.

Mars is in a benefic aspect, but exerts a fiery power that is always liable to lead uncontrolled, heavy, impetuous, and reckless persons astray. The same force is held to imbue noble and generous natures with powers for the best that Mars, making his genius, inspiration, insight and beneficent power.

Return this day rules fortunately for all things and pursuits concerning the earth, promising pleasures from fourneys in the country, and favoring affairs concerning real estate, building, farming, and land improvements.

Dealing with metals, minerals, and wood is under a good sign.

Trans wars against intrigue and cunning.

There is a strong warning sign also against offenses against religion, beliefs in anything, whether religion, politics, or science.

It should be a good time for sight-seeing, investigation, consideration of obscure problems, and for study and art.

Fowls and fish are held to be under good augury.

Persons whose birth-dates are under Sagittarius, and under a sign said to be very fortunate, conferring the power of combining intuition and prudence. Children born today are under a rule that often confers great powers of command, and obtaining followers.

Lingerie Collars Properly Cleaned

Those who wear lingerie waists with lace collars, will find it useful to know a safe and easy way to clean the necks, which are apt to become soiled when the waists are comparatively clean.

Especially is this the case in traveling, and many a woman has been obliged to send a waist to the laundry simply because of a black line around the collar from a dusty coat.

When such cases it comes as a relief to learn that a small nail brush and the ordinary bathroom soap, if properly applied, will cleanse a collar perfectly.

Take the waist carefully, and place the collar on the edge of the bathroom washbowl.

Be sure only the collar touches the marble. Then wet the nail brush with warm soap suds, and brush it rapidly over the soiled places.

Do not rinse the collar in the bowl, but allow it to remain on the edge of the bowl, and with the nail brush frequently dipped in fresh water, keep brushing the lace until the soap is entirely out of it.

Next place the waist carefully over the back of a chair, upon which a Turkish towel has been arranged, and hold the wet collar in shape just as it was removed from the basin edge.

If this method is taken at night, the next morning will find the collar clean and shapely for another day's wear.

Flannel Straining Bag For Preparing Jellies

A flannel straining bag is a necessity in any kitchen where jellies are prepared. It is an excellent substitute for a cloth strainer, and may be made of ordinary flannel, which should first of all be hemmed neatly and then soaked and wrung out in boiling water.

When it is used, it should be laid inside a large bowl and the fruit or liquid jelly poured into it. The four ends of the flannel should then be tied together and a stick passed through the knots. The bag can then be suspended over a bowl by means of the couple of chairs and left to drain slowly until all the liquid has passed through.

A blanket should be thrown over the top in cold weather, so as to prevent the jelly from setting too soon.

NATTY BOYS' SUIT MADE WITH BLOUSE



THIS little boy's suit includes a blouse that is exceptionally becoming and is made of serge worn with a white collar but it would be found desirable for all materials that are used for boys' costumes. Shepherd's check is a favorite just now and velveteen is being used for occasions of greater dress, in addition to all the familiar serges, chevrons and the like. The sleeves are laid in plaits that are becoming as well as novel. The closing of the blouse is made at the right of the front.

For a boy of eight years of age will be required 5 1/2 yards of material 27 inches wide, 4 1/2 yards 44 or 3 yards 52 inches wide. Any collar can be worn therewith, as the neck is finished with a neck band.

The May Mantion pattern, No. 696, is cut in sizes for boys of 6, 8 and 10 years of age, and can be obtained at Goldenberg's.

Cost of This Suit in Two Materials

Serge.	
5 yards of serge, 56c yard.....	\$2.80
One dozen buttons.....	.25
Total.....	2.75
Black or White Serge.	
5 yards of black and white serge, 56c yard.....	\$2.75
One dozen buttons.....	.25
Total.....	3.14

Flavor for Cocoa

A small piece of cinnamon put into the milk boiling for cocoa gives a delicious flavor, but be sure to take it out before serving the cocoa.

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One dozen buttons.....	.25
Total.....	2.75
Black or White Serge.	
5 yards of black and white serge, 56c yard.....	\$2.75
One dozen buttons.....	.25
Total.....	3.14

Question Box of The Times

It does not matter how personal are the things you want to know. Send your query to Question Box Editor, and she will answer you promptly where it is possible to do so. Your name will not be printed where you so request.

Mexican Pinoches.

Subscriber and Mrs. L. F.—The following is the recipe for Mexican Pinoches, which you would like. 8 pound brown sugar, one-half cup of milk, milk of butter the size of a walnut. Cook this mixture until it spins a thread. Take it off the stove and beat it until it begins to cool; add one cup chopped pecan nuts, stir in well, and drop on waxed paper.

Walking For Health.

Worried—No, there is nothing better to invigorate the body and produce a more circulate than long walks out in the open. While this may be regarded as old advice, it is nevertheless, true.

Do not make the mistake of walking too fast or too far at one time. Throw back your shoulders, strike a set pace and keep it up. The result will be good health, as well as a good figure.

How To Use Creams.

Miss E. L.—The skin must be perfectly dry before any oily application is put on. Oil and waters will not mix, and cosmetics put on wet skin are cosmetics wasted.

It is first necessary to bathe away all dust and impurities with hot water and soap, rinse in hot water, and then

Dainty Gifts of Place Cards.

Kate G.—If handy with your brush, a gift of place cards, say one dozen, which may be used at any time, will be much prized by the homemaker. These may have monogram in gold, or an emblem design of festoons.

Candle shades of all descriptions are also within your grasp and nothing so appeals to the homemaker as dainty accessories for her table.

Neglected Closets Require Cleaning

A little time should be taken every cleaning day in inspecting the closets about the house that are slightly or not at all used; generally there is one under the upper stairs or over the cellar steps.

These closets are in most instances so dark that it is almost impossible to tell whether they are dirty or not, but it is not hard to tell if they need a cleaning when you try to remember the last time you gave them a thorough cleaning.

These forgotten closets are breeders of disease and they are often to be found in the very best managed households, for few housewives and still fewer maids will think of giving these dark inclosures the cleaning they need as regularly as they do the other rooms of the house.

The dust might appear invisible when you are not in search of it, but if you flash a light into this low ceilinged apartment it does not take much imagination to picture how amazed you will be.

A remedy for this is a can of white paint and a good stout brush. Apply a thorough cleaning out of dirt and time you gave them a thorough cleaning.

For light while cleaning the place the reflection from a mirror will serve; but there will be no bird attempts to find your overhead the next rainy day if you give that closet two good coats of white lead.

PLANTS DESIRABLE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Cost Little and Are Pre-eminent In Acceptability At Yuletide.

CYCLAMEN AMONG POPULAR BLOOMS

Dwarf Bush, Lorraine Begonias, and Red-berried Plants Equally Charming.

If you are among the procrastinators who in the last week before Christmas rush out in a half distracted way to buy the first thing they see, a useful trifle, an illy chosen book, or an indigestible box of bonbons, why not turn aside from the beaten path of these last resorts and go around the corner from the crowded shops into the florist's place, where the crowds are not so large and where you can in a short time do your shopping, and for the same if not less money than you would throw away on trifles.

The desirability of plants as gifts is no longer questioned, and particularly to those who have a garden or a porch in the summer and a big living room for winter use. Individual taste with a few hints from the florist will make the selection easy, and there is a large number of plants to choose from, plants pre-eminent in their acceptability at the Yuletide.

Cyclamen Costs Little.

For one that is not expensive and can be grown in the window garden all winter, and later in the yard, there is the cyclamen, with its rose purple red, or white blossoms and rich foliage. A small cyclamen in bloom may be had for a quarter, and large ones come at 50 cents, while one of the richest beauty may be bought for \$1.50.

Then there is that beautiful dwarf bush, the baby rambler, which is as lovely as it is justly popular. Its bright crimson flowers can literally be made to bloom from Christmas to Christmas by keeping the plant in a sunny window during the winter and in summer plunging it, pot and all, into the ground. A strong two-year-old plant may be had for 50 cents, even cheaper at some florists, while \$2 will buy one that is a perpetual flame of blossoms.

Other profuse bloomers from the month of October to April are the Lorraine begonias with their delicate pink flowers almost smothered in their graceful bushiness. These plants are especially well adapted to window boxes and living rooms, and by proper care and reporting in the spring may be made to bloom for several years. They cost from 50 cents to \$1.50 a pot.

Fern Dish For 50 Cents.

For 50 cents one may get a pretty little fancy fern dish of pottery filled with tender young ferns, just the thing for the dining room table. Larger ones sell from 75 cents up to \$3 and \$4. These little plants always prove acceptable gifts to housewives.

Charming